

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (previously presented): A method for obtaining information from a relational database, comprising the steps of:

- formulating a text query to retrieve data from the relational database,
 - where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved
 - and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;
- transmitting the text query to the relational database;
- executing the text query;
- returning data from the relational database in accordance with the text query; and
- presenting the data in accordance with said format.

2 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

3 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the data is returned as a binary image and presented as a graph.

4 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein an image representation of data in ASCII format is returned from the relational database and presented as a graph.

5 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein said returning step further comprises interpreting the text query in accordance with a structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

6 (previously presented): A method according to claim 5, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

7 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein said returning step further comprises:

- interpreting the first portion of the text query to cause the data to be retrieved;
- creating a dataset for the data;
- incorporating the data into the dataset; and
- constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

8 (previously presented): A method according to claim 7, wherein said interpreting step further comprises parsing the text query so that the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are interpreted separately.

9 (previously presented): A method for querying a relational database, comprising the steps of:
specifying the data to be returned from the relational database in a first portion of a text query;

- specifying a format for graphing the data in a second portion of the text query; and
- executing the text query, thereby returning the data as a graphical image in accordance with said format.

10 (previously presented): A method according to claim 9, wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are in a structured query language (SQL).

11 (original): A method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical image is a binary image.

12 (original): A method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical image is a representation of the data in ASCII format.

13 (original): A method according to claim 10, wherein the SQL includes keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

14 (previously presented): A method according to claim 13, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

15 (currently amended): A system for retrieving and presenting data from a relational database, comprising:

- the relational database;

- an input device for entering a database text query, where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;

- a device for executing the text query;

- a device for interpreting the text query, where said device is effective to format the data for presentation in graphical form; and

- an output device for presenting the data as a graphical image in accordance with said format.

16 (previously presented): A system according to claim 15, wherein the text query is formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

17 (currently amended): A system according to claim 15, wherein ~~the text query includes a first portion specifying the data to be retrieved and a second portion specifying said graphical form,~~ ~~and~~ said device for interpreting the text query has an interpreter for interpreting both the first portion and the second portion of the text query.

18 (currently amended): A system according to claim 15, wherein ~~the text query includes a first portion specifying the data to be retrieved and a second portion specifying said graphical form,~~ ~~and~~ said device for interpreting the text query has a first interpreter for interpreting the first

portion of the text query and a second interpreter for interpreting the second portion of the text query.

19 (previously presented): A system according to claim 18, wherein the first interpreter is effective to return the data from the relational database in accordance with the first portion of the text query, and the second interpreter is effective to

- parse the text query into the first portion and the second portion;
- create a dataset for the data;
- incorporate the data into the dataset; and
- construct the graphical image using the data, in accordance with the second portion of the text query.

20 (original): A system according to claim 15, wherein the graphical image is a binary image.

21 (original): A system according to claim 15, wherein the graphical image is a representation of the data in ASCII format.

22 (original): A system according to claim 16, wherein the SQL includes keywords and syntax for specifying said graphical form.

23 (previously presented): A system according to claim 15, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

24 (previously presented): A computer program product comprising a computer-readable storage medium having stored therein instructions for obtaining information from a relational database, wherein the instructions when executed on a computer causes the computer to:

- query the relational database to retrieve data therefrom in accordance with a text query from a user,

- where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved
 - and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;

transmit the text query to the relational database;
execute the text query;
return data from the relational database in accordance with the query; and
present the data in accordance with said format.

25 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

26 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the data is returned as a binary image and presented as a graph.

27 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 24, wherein an image representation of data in ASCII format is returned from the relational database and presented as a graph.

28 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 24, wherein said returning step further comprises interpreting the text query in accordance with a structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

29 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 28, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

30 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 24, wherein said returning step further comprises:

interpreting the first portion of the text query to cause the data to be retrieved;
creating a dataset for the data;
incorporating the data into the dataset; and
constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

31 (previously presented): A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer usable program code for obtaining information from a relational database, said computer program product including:

computer usable program code for querying the relational database to retrieve data therefrom in accordance with a text query from a user,

where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved

and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;

computer usable program code for transmitting the text query to the relational database;

computer usable program code for executing the text query;

computer usable program code for returning the data from the relational database in accordance with the text query; and

computer usable program code for presenting the data in accordance with said format.

32 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

33 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein the data is returned as a binary image and presented as a graph.

34 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein an image representation of data in ASCII format is returned from the relational database and presented as a graph.

35 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein said returning step further comprises interpreting the text query in accordance with a structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

36 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 35, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a

scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

37 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein said returning step further comprises:

- interpreting the first portion of the text query to cause the data to be retrieved;
- creating a dataset for the data;
- incorporating the data into the dataset; and
- constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

38 (canceled)

39 (previously presented): In a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium including computer usable program code for interpreting a structured query language (SQL), the SQL used to formulate a text query to a relational database to return data therefrom upon execution of the text query, the improvement comprising:

- first computer usable program code for recognizing keywords for specifying a format for graphing the data; and
- second computer usable program code for causing the data to be presented as a graph according to said format.

40 (previously presented): In a computer program product according to claim 39, the improvement further comprising first computer usable program code including code for recognizing a delimiter keyword separating SQL statements in a first portion of the text query specifying the data from SQL statements in a second portion of the text query specifying said format.